

**Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate  
Library of Congress  
Report of Fiscal Year 2010 (Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2010)**

In fiscal 2010, the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate (ABA) of the Library of Congress achieved record-high levels of cataloging production; acquired more than 1.8 million items for the Library's collections from all parts of the world; and advanced policy, training, and standards for the entire library community. The achievements of ABA in fiscal 2010 confirmed the wisdom of the reorganization that took place the previous fiscal year and positioned the directorate to continue its leadership role for the information community in years to come..

**ABA Reorganization**

Fiscal 2010 was the second full year of operations for the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate after the reorganization that took effect October 1, 2008. In fiscal years 2005-2008, ABA had prepared for a thorough revision of workflows and organization in order to improve the timeliness of library users' access to content; better integrate the processing of digital content; increase per capita staff production; and increase the organization's flexibility in response to a changing environment. The new workflows reduce the number of times a collection item must be handled in-process and ensure that work is performed by appropriately graded staff. After new high-level workflows were designed, a new organization was designed to support them while offering opportunities for career enrichment and advancement.

The new organization features nine divisions: four with fiscal responsibilities that use purchase, gift, exchange, and transfer methods to acquire materials from all parts of the world and catalog them; two that perform only cataloging; and three service divisions. The four fiscal-responsibility divisions are the African, Latin American, and Western European Division (ALAW); the Asian and Middle Eastern Division (ASME); the Germanic and Slavic Division (GS); and the US/Anglo Division (USAN), which is also responsible for rare book cataloging and the Electronic Resources Management System (ERMS) Pilot. The two copyright-intake divisions, US General (USGEN) and US and Publisher Liaison (USPL), select and catalog materials forwarded from the U.S. Copyright Office or received in the Cataloging in Publication, Electronic Preassigned Card Number, and International Standard Serial Number programs. The Overseas Operations Division continues to administer the Library's six overseas offices. The Cooperative and Instructional Programs Division (COIN) combines the service unit's professional training arm with ABA's cooperative programs. The new Policy and Standards Division (PSD) absorbed all the functions of the former Cataloging Policy and Support Office. The Acquisitions Fiscal and Support Office (AFS), within the Office of the Director, is responsible for acquisitions fiscal operations, the Duplicate Materials Exchange Program (DMEP), the Surplus Books Program, and oversight of the acquisition materials handling contract.

## **Acquisitions**

The directorate acquired at least 1,898,133 items for the Library's permanent collections this year and facilitated the acquisition of an additional 972,338 gift items by the Collections and Services Directorate. (The total is stated as a minimum because of discrepancies between Copyright Office and ABA counts.) Of the total, the six overseas offices obtained 293,402 items for the Library in all formats, compared to 277,995 the year before—an increase of five percent. The USPL Division obtained 113,877 books submitted to meet Cataloging in Publication (CIP) and Preassigned Card Number (PCN) program requirements, compared to 83,551 the previous year. The number of books received through the CIP and PCN programs in fiscal 2010 increased by 36%; more significantly, the value of these books increased by 41% to more than \$9.5 million dollars. The total number of items acquired by ABA this year represents a slight increase over the 1,862,788 items acquired in fiscal 2009, while the number of gift items, representing extensive collaboration between ABA and the custodial divisions, increased by twenty percent over fiscal 2009.

ABA purchased 1,080,021 items for the LC collections in fiscal 2010, expending \$21.7 million from the GENPAC, LAW and other funds. With GENPAC funding, the acquisitions divisions purchased 773,393 items, an increase of twenty percent compared to the 617,006 items purchased through GENPAC in fiscal 2009. An additional 27,323 items were purchased using specially appropriated or revolving funds. Gift and trust funds were used to purchase 164,202 items. In fiscal 2010 ABA also purchased 115,103 items for the Law Library of Congress, an increase of 7.5 percent over the 106,384 items purchased for the Law Library in 2009.

## **Bibliographic Access**

The Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate completely cataloged 365,725 volumes, more than ever before. Production of original full- or core-level bibliographic records, the category of work of most interest to other libraries, increased from 171,124 in fiscal 2009 to 188,843 this year—a rise of six percent. Staff in ABA created 103,525 new name authority records that standardized and documented forms of names for persons, places, or corporate entities in the catalog, and 54,860 subject access terms for the *Library of Congress Subject Headings*. To provide inventory control, ABA checked in 414,803 loose serial issues and 301,725 digital holdings as well as creating holdings and item records for all new monographs (books) received for cataloging. “Serial check-in,” or inventory control of new serial issues, brings loose serial issues under inventory control nearly as soon as they are received, serial check-in improves the security of the collections and informs reference staff and users that the serials have arrived at the Library. In addition, the Policy and Standards Division in ABA updated or corrected 441,033 bibliographic records to replace obsolete subject and name access points with modern usage. The record-high production in nearly all categories of cataloging work confirmed the success of the ABA

reorganization of fiscal 2009, which redesigned all workflows and based them on the geographic origin of incoming collection materials.

### **Standards and Community Leadership**

Bibliographic description is being rediscovered as a rich source of metadata for library and non-library users worldwide. There is high interest in the ongoing development and testing of Semantic Web and linked data products. Experimenters are using LC's first offerings of our controlled vocabularies online. The recent expansion of VIAF, the Virtual International Authority File, to include corporate names in addition to personal names is an example of the rapid progress we have made. VIAF data was also made available in the Resource Description Format (RDF) this year, making it more available to web services and system applications. The LCSH/SKOS refinements, including feedback experiments for users to suggest new subject terms or to report needed corrections are strong indicators of the need to move aggressively to capitalize on the power of crowd sourcing. As RDA testing progresses, the Library looks for additional advances in the ability to search our metadata and discover difficult to find content in both analog and physical form.

### Cooperative Cataloging

The Library's cooperative cataloging partners contributed records at essentially the same levels as in FY10 and eagerly prepared for the US National RDA Test that would begin in October 2010 to test the economic and operational feasibility of *Resource Description and Access*, a proposed new set of cataloging instructions. The Library has taken a strong leadership role in RDA testing. Policy and Standards Division has conducted numerous presentations both inside and outside the Library to prepare librarians for the tests, and twenty-six institutions have signed on as RDA testers. Based on the test results, the Library will make a formal determination regarding adoption of the new cataloging standards.

The Cooperative and Instructional Programs Division in ABA served as secretariat to the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC), an international consortium of more than 730 institutions that produce cataloging that meets international standards and can be shared among members. In fiscal 2010 PCC members created 233,420 name authorities, 12,502 series authorities, 3,930 Library of Congress Subject Headings, and 418 Library of Congress Classification numbers. The PCC also contributed new bibliographic records 29,131 for serials and 76,079 for monographs.

Even with the continued economic downturn, the Program for Cooperative Cataloging attracted forty-two new member institutions in fiscal 2010. The bulk of the new members joined NACO, the name authority component of the PCC; none joined BIBCO, the monograph bibliographic record component. Of the forty-two new institutions twenty-five joined funnels and seventeen requested institutional membership. To join the PCC, an institution must participate in the

NACO program and receive training. Some of these institutions are also participating in other PCC programs, namely BIBCO, CONSER for serial bibliographic records, and SACO, the subject authority program.

#### Dewey Decimal Program

ABA continued as the world's largest Dewey classifying agency, as a service to US school and public libraries and to the many Dewey libraries in other countries. AutoDewey was expanded to include automatic assignments of Dewey numbers to Spanish and Portuguese literature. The Dewey Section staff assisted with developing the future linked data environment through work on a DDC to BISAC correlation map. The Dewey Editorial Assistants along with selected Dewey staff continued to move forward on the Arabic, Swedish, and Norwegian translations of the DDC.

Libraries look to the Library for guidance and leadership in establishment and maintenance of bibliographic standards. The Library's MARC format documentation information web pages are rank among the top three pages of all the Library of Congress sites. The Authorities and Vocabularies web pages averaged 35,000 page views per month this year.

#### LC Authorities and Vocabularies

With the Network Development and MARC Standards Office, the Policy and Standards Division within ABA expanded and enhanced the LC Authorities and Vocabularies Service, hosted at <<http://id.loc.gov>>. First implemented in fiscal 2009, the LC Authorities and Vocabularies service provides a Web service interface for developers—whether local or external to LC—to interact programmatically with data values commonly found in standards promulgated by LC. The service's initial launch provided access to the *Library of Congress Subject Headings*. During fiscal 2010, a number of additional lists were made available: *Thesaurus for Graphic Materials*; MARC Relators codes; Cryptographic Hash Functions, Preservation Events, and Preservation Level Role. The last three are preservation-specific value lists published in support of the PREMIS data dictionary for preservation metadata. The Authorities and Vocabularies service at ID.LOC.GOV has become a model for Linked Data within not only the library and information science community but also the broader Semantic Web community. The registry is driven by SKOS (Simple Knowledge Organization System) RDF metadata, which enables machine querying and accessibility for any semantic web projects that occur at the Library or in the community.

#### **Overseas Operations: Global Acquisitions and Access**

The six overseas offices in Cairo, Islamabad, Jakarta, Nairobi, New Delhi, and Rio de Janeiro increased the quantity and scope of their cataloging, creating a total of 45,997 bibliographic and 23,870 authority records, while acquiring 293,402 pieces for the LC collections, compared to 277,995 in FY09.

Following up on a 2009 report to the Congress recommending changes in the conduct of Overseas Operations business, the Library issued an RFP for the development of a new system to manage the work of its field offices. At year's end, a contract had been award awarded to VTLS, Inc., for the development for a new system to manage these operations. Similarly a contract was awarded to the Council for American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) to work with the Library to develop an acquisition model which would address the need to collect more aggressively in west Africa without incurring the significant costs associated with creating a new field office. The CAORC office is being established in Dakar, Senegal, and it is hoped it will prove a cost-effective model for collecting which can be replicated elsewhere.